

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

GERALD TINNER,

Plaintiff,

v.

SAN JUAN COUNTY, et al.,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C19-925 MJP

ORDER

1. MOTION TO
SUPPLEMENT RECORD
2. DEFENDANTS' MOTION
FOR SUMMARY
JUDGMENT

The above-entitled Court, having received and reviewed:

1. Defendants Krebs and San Juan County's Motion for Summary Judgment (Dkt. No. 27), Plaintiff's Consolidated Response (Dkt. No. 40), Defendants Krebs and San Juan County's Reply to Plaintiff's Response to Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment (Dkt. No. 49);
2. Defendant Parker's Motion and Memorandum of Authorities Supporting Summary Judgment Dismissal (Dkt. No. 30), Defendant Parker's Reply Brief Supporting Summary Judgment Dismissal and Motion to Strike (Dkt. No. 51);

1 3. Plaintiff's Motion to Supplement Record (Dkt. No. 66), Defendant Parker's Response
2 (Dkt. No. 70), Defendants Krebs and San Juan County's Response (Dkt. No. 74), and
3 Plaintiff's Reply (Dkt. No. 75);
4 all attached declarations and exhibits, relevant portions of the record, and having heard oral
5 argument, rules as follows:

6 IT IS ORDERED that the motion to supplement the record is DENIED.

7 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the summary judgment motions are GRANTED; this
8 matter is hereby DISMISSED with prejudice.

9 **Background**

10 While what actually transpired between Plaintiff Gerald Tinner, Natalia Garcia, and
11 Defendant Stephen Parker will likely forever remain a mystery to the public at large, the facts as
12 they are relevant to the disposition of this case are essentially undisputed:

13 Plaintiff, a teacher at Orcas Island High School, was charged with violations of RCW
14 9A.44.093, two felony counts of sexual misconduct with a minor related to allegations brought
15 by his then 19-year-old student teaching assistant (Natalia Garcia; hereinafter, "Ms. Garcia").
16 Dkt. No. 28, Decl. of Cooley, Ex. A. The crime is a statutory sexual offense; i.e., consent or lack
17 thereof is not an element of the crime. The investigating officer was Defendant Stephen Parker,
18 at the time a San Juan County Sheriff's Deputy. Dkt. No. 3, Amended Complaint, ¶ 3.10.

19 At trial, the primary evidence against Plaintiff consisted of the testimony of Ms. Garcia
20 and two pieces of physical evidence – a pair of Ms. Garcia's underwear and a tissue with which
21 Ms. Garcia claimed to have wiped herself after a sexual encounter with Plaintiff. DNA and
22 sperm from both items of evidence were tested by the Washington State Police Crime Lab and
23 the results were a match to a sample of Plaintiff's DNA collected and submitted by Defendant
24

1 Parker. Dkt. No. 29, Decl. of Uhrich, Exs. A-D. In addition to Ms. Garcia, both Plaintiff and
2 Defendant Parker testified and were cross-examined. The physical evidence cited *supra* was
3 admitted without objection as to either chain of custody or admissibility. Decl. of Cooley,
4 Testimony of Parker, Ex. H at 171, 176. The trial court granted the State's motion in limine to
5 exclude references to or questions regarding any sexual relationships of the victim with other
6 people. *Id.*, Ex. K, L. The jury found Plaintiff guilty on both counts. *Id.*, Exs. J, M.

7 Following the trial but prior to sentencing, allegations surfaced from Ms. Garcia
8 regarding a sexual relationship with Defendant Parker which had commenced within weeks of
9 the beginning of the investigation and continued through the trial. Amended Complaint, ¶ 3.32.
10 Additionally, an employee of the county prosecutor's office (Ms. Miller, the county's Victim
11 Service Advocate) advised that Parker had told her he believed that Ms. Garcia "set people up."
12 *Id.* at ¶ 3.34. Defendant Parker has subsequently denied making any such statement or holding
13 such opinion, and denied engaging in any sexual relationship with Ms. Garcia. Dkt. No. 31,
14 Decl. of McMahon, Deposition of Parker, Ex. 1 at 47, 72. An internal investigation by the SJC
15 Sheriff's Department concluded that Parker had a sexual relationship with Ms. Garcia. Dkt. No.
16 41, Decl. of Power, Ex. D.

17 Following the revelations regarding Defendant Parker and Ms. Garcia, Plaintiff's trial
18 counsel moved for a new trial, citing not only the undisclosed relationship between Parker and
19 Ms. Garcia and the undisclosed statement regarding a "set-up," but also a list of other
20 information not provided to Plaintiff's criminal counsel prior to trial. The motion was granted on
21 Brady grounds (based on two undisclosed pieces of evidence: the "set-up" comment and the fact
22 that Ms. Garcia had vacillated about whether she would testify against Plaintiff), the conviction
23 was vacated, and a new trial ordered. Decl. of Power, Ex. A, Transcript of June 15, 2016 San
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1 Juan County Superior Court hearing. The State initially appealed the grant of a new trial, but
2 later withdrew the appeal. After the appeal was remanded to Superior Court, the trial judge
3 dismissed the charges against Plaintiff completely, insulating him from further criminal
4 prosecution. Amended Complaint, ¶ 3.53. Defendant Parker resigned from the SJC Sheriff's
5 Department and left the area.

6 In June of 2019, Plaintiff initiated this lawsuit against Parker, San Juan County Sheriff
7 Krebs, and San Juan County itself. Dkt. No. 3, Amended Complaint. The complaint alleged
8 causes of action for:

- 9 1. Due process violations (a/k/a "Brady violations") pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (all
10 Defendants)
- 11 2. Monell claim for violation of due process rights (Defendants SJC and Krebs)
- 12 3. Conspiracy claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Defendant Parker)
- 13 4. Negligence (all Defendants)
- 14 5. Outrage (all Defendants)

15 Id., pp. 10-14.

16 Defendants have moved for summary judgment dismissing all claims. After the
17 summary judgment motions came ripe, Plaintiff filed a motion to supplement the record.

18 Discussion

19 Motion to Supplement the Record

20 Over three months after Defendants' summary judgment motions came ripe, Plaintiff has
21 filed a motion to supplement the record with deposition testimony from San Juan County's
22 Victim Service Advocate, Ms. Miller, and also from Ms. Garcia. Dkt. Nos. 66, 67.

1 The motion is without merit for two reasons. First, Plaintiff never filed a motion with
 2 this Court under FRCP 56(d), which is the proper vehicle for a party wishing to place responsive
 3 evidence not currently in its possession before the court. Plaintiff never claimed, prior to the
 4 filing of the motion to supplement the record, that the depositions of Ms. Miller and Ms. Garcia
 5 were necessary to present facts essential to opposing Defendants' summary judgment motions.

6 Second, the means by which Plaintiff has chosen to attempt to present the additional
 7 evidence permits Defendants no opportunity to respond to the substance of the testimony, either
 8 with evidence of their own or with legal argument. The Court will not exercise its discretion to
 9 permit this subversion of the advocacy process.

10 The motion to supplement the record is DENIED.

11 Summary Judgment Motions

12 Standard of review

13 "The court shall grant summary judgment if the movant shows that there is no genuine
 14 dispute as to any material fact and the movant is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Fed. R.
 15 Civ. P. 56(a). The moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law when the nonmoving
 16 party fails to make a sufficient showing on an essential element of a claim in the case on which
 17 the nonmoving party has the burden of proof. Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 323
 18 (1985).

19 There is no genuine issue of fact for trial where the record, taken as a whole, could not
 20 lead a rational trier of fact to find for the nonmoving party. Matsushita Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith
 21 Radio Corp., 475 U.S. 574, 586 (1986) (nonmoving party must present specific, significant
 22 probative evidence, not simply "some metaphysical doubt."); Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(e). Conversely,
 23 a genuine dispute over a material fact exists if there is sufficient evidence supporting the claimed
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1 factual dispute, requiring a judge or jury to resolve the differing versions of the truth. Anderson
 2 v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 253 (1986); T.W. Elec. Service Inc. v. Pacific Electrical
 3 Contractors Association, 809 F.2d 626, 630 (9th Cir. 1987).

4 Defendant Parker

5 The Court has determined that this Defendant is entitled to invoke his right to qualified
 6 immunity as a means of avoiding the claims brought against him in this lawsuit.

7 The doctrine found its origins in the reluctance of courts to hold officials performing
 8 discretionary functions liable if it could not be said that their conduct violated “clearly
 9 established rights” which those officials reasonably should have been expected to know. Harlow
 10 v. Fitzgerald, 457 U.S. 800, 818 (1992). The early test for determining qualified immunity
 11 involved a two-part inquiry: first, whether a showing of a constitutional rights violation had been
 12 made; and, second, “whether that right is clearly established.” Saucier v. Katz, 533 U.S. 194,
 13 201 (2001). Later, the Supreme Court amended that procedure by making it discretionary
 14 whether to begin the inquiry with the first or second question. Pearson v. Callahan, 555 U.S.
 15 223, 236-37 (2009).

16 The test has been further refined based on a formulation articulated by Justice Scalia in
 17 Ashcroft v. al-Kidd, 563 U.S. 731, 740 (2011). Quoting a portion of an earlier case, Justice
 18 Scalia wrote:

19 A Government official's conduct violates clearly established law when, at
 20 the time of the challenged conduct, “[t]he contours of [a] right [are]
 21 sufficiently clear” that every “reasonable official would [have understood]
 22 that what he is doing violates that right.” Anderson v. Creighton, 483 U.S.
 23 635, 640, 107 S. Ct. 3034, 97 L. Ed. 2d 523 (1987). We do not require a
 24 case directly on point, but existing precedent must have placed the
 statutory or constitutional question beyond debate.

1 (emphasis supplied.) The Ninth Circuit has echoed this formulation of the qualified immunity
2 analysis. Mattos v. Aragano, 661 F.3d 433, 442 (9th Cir. 2011)(“[W]e ask whether its contours
3 were sufficiently clear that every ‘reasonable official’ would have understood that what he is
4 doing violates that right.”).

5 It is in this light that the Court examines the actions of Defendant Parker and concludes
6 that he is entitled to qualified immunity in this lawsuit. The Court’s analysis will answer both
7 parts of “Brady inquiry:” whether the non-disclosure violated any constitutional rights, and
8 whether the rights that Plaintiff alleges were violated were “clearly established” (i.e., would
9 every police officer have understood that what this particular police officer is alleged to have
10 done was a violation of Plaintiff’s constitutional rights?).

11 For purposes of this analysis, the Court, looking at the evidence in the light most
12 favorable to the non-movant, will assume that Parker (1) had a sexual relationship with Ms.
13 Garcia and (2) related to the county prosecutor’s victim advocate a belief that Ms. Garcia “set
14 people up,” neither of which he disclosed to anyone in the prosecutor’s or Sheriff’s office nor to
15 Plaintiff’s criminal defense attorney.

16 Plaintiff is attempting to vindicate his constitutional rights under principles enunciated in
17 Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)(“the suppression by the prosecution of evidence
18 favorable to an accused upon request violates due process where the evidence is material either
19 to guilt or to punishment, irrespective of the good faith or bad faith of the prosecution;” id. at
20 87). In the years since Brady, the reach of the rule has expanded considerably. Favorable
21 evidence under Brady now extends beyond exculpatory evidence to impeachment evidence
22 (Giglio v. United States, 405 U.S. 150, 154-55 (1972)), to evidence not specifically requested by
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1 the defense (U.S. v. Agurs, 427 U.S. 97, 110 (1976)), and to evidence in the possession of the
2 police as well as the prosecution. Kyles v. Whitley, 514 U.S. 419, 437 (1995).

3 The current standard calls for proof by a criminal defendant of the following:

4 There are three components of a true *Brady* violation: The evidence at
5 issue must be favorable to the accused, either because it is exculpatory, or
6 because it is impeaching; that evidence must have been suppressed by the
7 State, either willfully or inadvertently; and prejudice must have ensued.

8 Strickler v. Greene, 527 U.S. 263, 281-82 (1999).

9 Despite the expanded scope of the rule in Brady, Plaintiff has failed to establish that any
10 evidence which Defendant Parker did not disclose is either exculpatory or impeaching. In order
11 to be exculpatory, it would had to have had some connection in logic and common sense to
12 Plaintiff's innocence of the crimes of which he was charged. Regarding the sexual relationship,
13 Plaintiff has been unable to articulate a plausible connection between the existence of that
14 relationship and his declaration of innocence.

15 The problem with Plaintiff's entire "exculpatory theory" is that it relies (as it must, given
16 the evidence adduced at his criminal trial) on the premise that the evidence against him (both Ms.
17 Garcia's testimony and the physical evidence of sexual activity) was fabricated. If Ms. Garcia
18 was lying about having had sex with Plaintiff, the lie predates her meeting Defendant Parker by a
19 matter of weeks; therefore the existence of a relationship between Ms. Garcia and Defendant
20 Parker has no relevance as to that element of Plaintiff's defense. That leaves the physical
21 evidence – lab test results positively identifying as Plaintiff's both DNA and sperm on underwear
22 and a tissue, results which Plaintiff did not challenge at his criminal trial and has not come
23 forward with contradictory proof regarding during the course of this lawsuit. In the absence of
24 either evidence or even a plausible scenario concerning how Defendant Parker and Ms. Garcia

1 could have fabricated that evidence, the fact that the two had a physical relationship has no
2 tendency to exculpate Plaintiff and thus no “Brady value” in that regard.

3 Plaintiff cites an Eighth Circuit case which he contends is both analogous to his situation
4 and favors a finding that he has a meritorious § 1983 claim against Defendant Parker. The Court
5 disagrees on both points. The case is White v. McKinley, 605 F.3d 525 (8th Cir. 2010), and the
6 appellate court in White affirmed the trial court’s denial of summary judgment and new trial
7 motions by the defendant police officer, letting stand a verdict that the plaintiff’s due process
8 rights had been violated by the officer’s suppression of exculpatory evidence and nondisclosure
9 of his romantic relationship with the plaintiff’s ex-wife.

10 The facts of White are deceptively similar to this case, but distinguishable in two
11 critically important ways. First, the romantic relationship between the police officer and the ex-
12 wife *predated* the allegations against the plaintiff, thus lending increased credibility to the theory
13 that the two had conspired against the plaintiff to manufacture the criminal charges (molestation
14 of a girl who was the ex-wife’s biological child and the plaintiff’s stepdaughter) of which the
15 plaintiff was eventually acquitted. Second, the physical evidence which the defendant police
16 officer had failed to disclose was unquestionably exculpatory: diary entries by the alleged victim
17 expressing her affection and admiration for her stepfather.

18 Plaintiff’s facts are materially different. The Parker-Garcia relationship commenced well
19 after the accusations of wrongdoing had surfaced; there can be no assertion that the accusations
20 originated as a result of that relationship. The suppressed evidence in White was
21 incontrovertibly exculpatory; no undisclosed evidence in this case can be said to possess that
22 quality.

1 Justice Scalia's formulation of the test to determine whether every reasonable official
2 should know that his/her actions were violating someone's constitutional rights did not "require a
3 case directly on point, but existing precedent must have placed the statutory or constitutional
4 question beyond debate." Ashcroft v. al-Kidd, 563 U.S. at 740. White (an Eighth Circuit case
5 not binding in this locality and materially distinguishable on its facts) is not that case for this
6 Plaintiff.

7 The statement made to the Victim Services Advocate that Defendant Parker believed that
8 Ms. Garcia "set people up" is similarly devoid of exculpatory "Brady value." If Plaintiff wishes
9 the Court to read the statement as indicative that Ms. Garcia set him up by enticing him into a
10 sexual relationship, even if that were true it would have no exculpatory value: the crimes with
11 which Plaintiff was charged represented a form of statutory rape, therefore it is irrelevant
12 whether Ms. Garcia was a willing participant and/or manipulated Plaintiff into the sexual
13 encounter. If the Plaintiff wishes the Court to read the statement as somehow proof of a deeper
14 conspiracy (i.e., that the "set up" began with a lie about the sexual encounters and extended to the
15 manufacture of the physical evidence against him), then he runs into the same dead end (no
16 supporting evidence, no plausible scenario) as the Court has noted *supra*.

17 Nor does the non-disclosure of which Plaintiff complains constitute evidence which
18 Plaintiff could have used for its impeachment value. The benefit to Plaintiff of exposing either
19 Defendant Parker or Ms. Garcia (or both) as "impeachable" (i.e., potentially dishonest and
20 untrustworthy) rests entirely on his "fabricated evidence" theory. The only point of impeaching
21 Defendant Parker would have been in support of Plaintiff's argument that Parker had been
22 instrumental in fabricating the evidence against him. The Court has already ruled on the absence
23 of any proof (and the resultant logical untenability) of that theory; impeaching Defendant Parker
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1 would not alter that conclusion. The probative value of that evidence is nil; the prejudicial
2 impact high.

3 Nor was the non-disclosed evidence available to impeach Ms. Garcia. The existence of a
4 sexual relationship between herself and Defendant Parker is in no way probative of her character
5 for truthfulness or her general credibility, not to mention that its introduction runs afoul of the
6 Washington “rape shield” law which states that “evidence of the victim’s past sexual behavior...
7 is inadmissible on the issue of credibility and is inadmissible to prove the victim’s consent...”
8 RCW 9A.44.020(2). The Court acknowledges that the rape shield law is not an absolute bar to
9 the admission of evidence of prior sexual behavior. State v. Hudlow, 99 Wn.2d 1, 7 (1983),
10 articulated the test for determining the admissibility of a victim’s past sexual conduct.

11 [E]vidence of the victim's past sexual behavior admissible on the issue of
12 consent only if: (1) it is relevant; (2) its probative value substantially
13 outweighs the probability that its admission will create a substantial
14 danger of undue prejudice; and (3) its exclusion will result in denial of
15 substantial justice to the defendant.

16 Since “consent” was not an issue in Plaintiff’s criminal prosecution, it is an open question
17 whether the Hudlow test would be applied to questions of credibility, but even assuming it would
18 be the Court still finds that the evidence of a Garcia-Parker relationship does not satisfy the
19 elements of the test. Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate its relevance (defined as its tendency to
20 make any element of his criminal defense more likely to be true) and its admission creates a
21 “substantial danger of undue prejudice” (the very reason the rape shield law was instituted in the
22 first place) that far outweighs its negligible probative value.

23 The undisclosed “set up” comment is even further devoid of exculpatory or impeachment
24 value as regards Ms. Garcia. Defendant Parker denies making the statement or holding that
belief, making him unavailable for any line of examination that might elucidate his reasons for

1 the opinion. Ms. Garcia did not make the statement, rendering it inadmissible for any purpose
2 related to her credibility.

3 In the absence of any exculpatory or impeachment value, the Court finds the fact of the
4 non-disclosure of either of these pieces of evidence does not violate the rule announced in Brady
5 or further developed in later cases. The Court thus answers both questions related to qualified
6 immunity in the negative: there was no constitutional violation created by the nondisclosure, and
7 thus no reasonable police officer would have known that failing to disclose the information
8 created such a violation.

9 On that basis, Defendant Parker is entitled to qualified immunity, which represents not
10 simply a defense but an immunity from suit. Mitchell v. Forsyth, 472 U.S. 511, 526 (1985). His
11 motion for summary judgment will be granted and the claims against him dismissed with
12 prejudice.

13 Defendants Krebs and San Juan County

14 The Court will examine each claim against these Defendants in order.

15 *Due process violation pursuant to § 1982 (Brady violation)*

16 The analysis *supra* regarding Defendant Parker would be equally applicable to these
17 Defendants, were it not foreclosed by an even more absolute barrier; namely, the complete
18 absence of any evidence that these Defendants were aware of any of the undisclosed information
19 prior to its disclosure post-trial.

20 This is particularly fatal to the prosecution of a § 1983 claim in federal court. *Mens rea*
21 as regards a Brady violation represents a very low bar in a state criminal prosecution, where

22 the suppression of Brady material [in a state criminal proceeding]
23 “violates due process ... irrespective of the good faith or bad faith of the
24 prosecution.” Brady, 373 U.S. at 87, 83 S.Ct. 1194... [While] a § 1983
plaintiff should not be required to show that officers acted in bad faith in

1 withholding material, exculpatory evidence from prosecutors... a § 1983
 2 plaintiff must show that police officers acted with deliberate indifference
 to or reckless disregard for an accused's rights or for the truth in
 withholding evidence from prosecutors.

3 Tennison v. City & Cty. of San Francisco, 570 F.3d 1078, 1088 (9th Cir. 2009).

4 There can be no showing of “deliberate indifference or reckless disregard” in the absence
 5 of some foreknowledge of the existence of the undisclosed evidence. In response to the
 6 challenge presented by these Defendants’ summary judgment motion, Plaintiff has adduced no
 7 proof that, prior to the post-trial revelation of the Parker-Garcia relationship and Parker’s “set
 8 up” comments regarding Ms. Garcia, either Defendant Krebs or any other official of San Juan
 9 County knew of this evidence and through “deliberate indifference or reckless disregard” for
 10 Plaintiff’s rights chose to withhold it. On that basis, the § 1983 claim based on a violation of
 11 Brady cannot be sustained against either of these Defendants.

12 *Due process violation (Monell claim)*

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 14 The Court begins its analysis of this claim by noting that it is plead in an ambiguous and
 15 confusing fashion in Plaintiff’s amended complaint, and that Plaintiff made no attempt to defend
 16 it in response to Defendants’ summary judgment challenge. The Court agrees with Defendants
 17 that this second cause of action appears to be composed of three “sub-claims:”

- 18 1. Ratification/approval of unconstitutional conduct
- 19 2. Improper hiring, training, and supervision
- 20 3. Policies, regulations and practices “which if followed would likely result in the
 21 violation of the constitutional rights of Plaintiff and others” (Dkt. No. 3, Amended
 Complaint at ¶ 5.2.)

22 Regarding “ratification or approval:” ratification of a subordinate’s unconstitutional
 23 action can amount to a constitutional violation (Gillette v. Delmore, 979 F.2d 1342, 1347 (9th
 24 Cir. 1992)), but Plaintiff comes forward with no evidence that Defendant Krebs was aware of,

1 much less endorsed, the unethical, undisclosed conduct of his deputy, or was aware of evidence
 2 or opinions regarding Ms. Garcia “setting people up.” Plaintiff presents no evidence rebutting
 3 the Sheriff’s testimony that Parker’s sexual relationship with Ms. Garcia was a violation of his
 4 office’s policies and procedures, and that Parker would have been fired if he had not resigned.
 5 Dkt. No. 28, Decl. of Cooley, Ex. R, Krebs Depo at 7; Dkt. No. 41, Decl. of Power, Ex. D.
 6 Defendant Krebs is entitled to summary judgment dismissing this portion of the claim against
 7 him. The absence of any evidence regarding any official of Defendant San Juan County in this
 8 regard compels a similar result.

9 Demonstrating that the county’s hiring policies violated his rights under § 1983 requires a
 10 showing by Plaintiff that (1) the hiring procedures of the policymaker were inadequate; (2) the
 11 policymaker was deliberately indifferent in adopting the hiring policy; and (3) the inadequate
 12 hiring policy directly caused Plaintiff’s injury. City of Canton v. Harris, 489 U.S. 378 (1989).
 13 In response to Defendants’ motions, Plaintiff presents no evidence on any of these requisite
 14 elements; in fact, does not even specifically cite to which policy or procedure his complaint
 15 concerns. Summary judgment dismissing this portion of the Monell claim will be granted.

16 Additionally, Defendants cite to case law concerning § 1983 claims based on inadequate
 17 training which treats them as a further extension of “unconstitutional policies and practices”
 18 jurisprudence. But the bar is similarly high:

19 To satisfy [§ 1983], a municipality’s failure to train its employees in a
 20 relevant respect must amount to “deliberate indifference to the rights of
 21 persons with whom the [untrained employees] come into contact.”
 22 [citation omitted] Only then “can such a shortcoming be properly thought
 of as a city ‘policy or custom’ that is actionable under § 1983.” [citation
 omitted].

23 “‘[D]eliberate indifference’ is a stringent standard of fault, requiring proof
 24 that a municipal actor disregarded a known or obvious consequence of his
 action.” [citation omitted]... A pattern of similar constitutional violations

1 by untrained employees is “ordinarily necessary” to demonstrate
 2 deliberate indifference for purposes of failure to train. [*citation omitted*].

3 Connick v. Thompson, 563 U.S. 51, 61-62 (2011). Again, Plaintiff comes forward with no
 4 evidence that would satisfy this standard. Defendants are entitled to summary judgment on the
 5 entirety of this § 1983/Monell claim as well.

6 Negligence

7 At the heart of any negligence claim is the existence of a duty owed by the alleged
 8 tortfeasor to the Plaintiff. Washington law does not recognize a duty flowing between a law
 9 enforcement agency in the course of a criminal investigation and the object of that investigation.
 10 Dever v. Fowler, 63 Wn.App. 35, 45 (1991); *amended on denial of reconsideration* (Dec. 20,
 11 1991), amended, 824 P.2d 1237 (1992). *See also Janaszak v. State*, 173 Wn.App. 703, 725
 12 (2013). Plaintiff comes forward with no authority to the contrary, and there can be no
 13 negligence in the absence of a duty. The remaining Defendants are entitled to summary
 14 judgment dismissing this cause of action against them.

15 Outrage

16 To establish a claim for the tort of outrage, [a plaintiff] must demonstrate
 17 that (1) he suffered severe emotional distress; (2) the emotional distress
 18 was inflicted intentionally or recklessly, and not negligently; (3) the
 19 conduct complained of was outrageous and extreme; and (4) he personally
 20 was the object of the outrageous conduct. The defendant's conduct must be
 “so outrageous in character, and so extreme in degree, as to go beyond all
 possible bounds of decency, and to be regarded as atrocious, and utterly
 intolerable in a civilized community.”

21 Janaszak v. State, 173 Wn. App. 703, 726, 297 P.3d 723, 736 (2013)(*quoting Grimsby v.*
 22 Samson, 85 Wn.2d 52, 59 (1975)). Because Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate any pre-existing
 23 knowledge on the part of Defendants San Juan County and Krebs regarding Parker’s activities or
 24

statements, the claim fails against them for lack of any proof of “intentional or reckless” infliction of distress upon him by those parties.

Additionally, while it could certainly be argued that an investigating officer permitting himself to become sexually involved with a victim (of a sex crime, no less) is “atrocious, and utterly intolerable in a civilized community,” that relationship in and of itself inflicted no damage on Plaintiff. It is Defendant Parker’s withholding of the existence of the relationship, and the suppression of whatever evidence he had to support his statement that Ms. Garcia “set people up” that is the proximate cause of the emotional distress he is alleged to have inflicted on Plaintiff. *That* behavior (the withholding of exculpatory or impeachment evidence) does not qualify as “beyond all possible bounds of decency.” Plaintiff has produced no case authority that has ever so held.

Defendants' motions for summary judgment dismissing the cause of action for outrage will be granted.

Conclusion

Plaintiff's motion to supplement the record will be denied as improper and untimely. All claims against Defendant Parker will be dismissed on the basis of the finding that he is eligible for qualified immunity. Plaintiff having failed to respond with evidence supporting all elements of the claims against Defendant Krebs and Defendant San Juan County, their motion for summary judgment will be granted and all claims dismissed against them with prejudice.

1 The clerk is ordered to provide copies of this order to all counsel.

2 Dated July 21, 2020.

3 

4 Marsha J. Pechman
5 United States Senior District Judge